RG104 E-1 Box 132

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 9 October —, 1884.

Sir,

In order to answer your query as to the proper price of Black Lead Crucibles, employed in this Mint, I examined the subject at some Black Lead Works, where the Crucibles are made, and also the Crucibles in actual use. I concluded that the price of 3 cts. per No. does not sufficiently remunerate the Manufacturer, when we consider the peculiar risks of the manufacture, and the necessity of our employing uniformly and exclusively the very best for melting Gold and Silver.

While unable at present to express my opinion what the fairest price should be, I will say positively that it should not be less than 3½ cts. pr No.

Respectfully yours
J. P. C. Booth

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden
Superintendent

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 132

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
Melting and Refining Department,
Philadelphia,
October 9, 1884

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While unable at present to express my opinion what the fairest price should be, I will say positively that it should not be less than 3 ½ cts. pr. No.

Respectfully yours
Jas. C. Booth

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden
Superintendent